Development Bank, etc. to introduce such a scheme in poorest districts of Vidarbha like Yavatmal, where maximum farmers; suicides are taking place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Bihar had envisaged the Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project JEEVIKA to the Ministry of Finance seeking World Bank funding for the Project. The Project was approved by the Ministry of Finance on 14.6.2007. Accordingly, the World Bank approved a credit amounting to SDR 41,400,000 (equivalent to Us $ 63,000,000) for the project on "Bihar rural Livelihoods - JEEVIKA". The Project objective is to enhance social and economic empowerment of rural poor in Bihar. The project period is six years. The total project cost is US $ 70 million, out of which US $ 63 million has been funded by the World Bank and the rest by the Government of Bihar. The "Bihar Rural Livelihoods - JEEVIKA" will be implemented in about 776 Village Panchayats covering 4000 villages in 42 blocks in the six districts of Nalanda, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Madhubani, Khagaria and Purnea of the State of Bihar. The primary agency responsible for the project's implementation will be the Bihar Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (BRLPS) established by Government of Bihar, as the promotional and umbrella agency for rural livelihood promotion in Bihar.

(b) In order to introduce such a scheme in the poorest districts of Vidarbha like Yavatmal, the Government of Maharashtra may formulate a specific project and then take up with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs for seeking external financial assistance for implementing the Project.

Release of funds to Orissa under IAY

†395. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds released by the Centre to the State of Orissa under Indira Awās Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are considering for giving additional package for construction of houses in the backwards areas in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVLEOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) An amount of Rs. 440.45 crore was released by the Centre to the State of Orissa under Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Review of NREG Scheme on the basis of irregularities

†396. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme on the basis of irregularities prevailing in it;

(b) if so, the details thereof including points of review;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have achieved targets fixed for first phase;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. Review of the progress of the implementation of NREGA is done on regular basis. NREGA has been reviewed at the highest level in Prime Minister's review meeting on 20.6.2007. Performance Review Committee meetings are undertaken by the Minister of Rural Devleopment and Secretary (Rural Development) from time to time. During the year 2007-2008, three Regional Review Committee meetings have been held to cover review of all States. These were held at Orissa, Guwahati and Jaipur. A Central Employment Guarantee Council was constituted on 22.9.2006 to review and monitor the implementation of the Act. The Council has so far held three meetings and reviewed the implementation of NREGA. Members of the Council also conduct field visits in various States to oversee the progress of the Act. An Executive Committee constituted under the Central Council reviewed the progress of the Act in its meeting held on 16.8.2007.

Progress of NREGA was also reviewed in the interactive session with Members of Parliament held during 20th - 23rd August, 2007 and 5th -6th September, 2007. National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers of the Ministry visit various districts to oversee the progress of the Act. The Area Officers have been directed to cover 10 villages during their each visit. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been set up to review the implementation of the Act.

(b) The issues that have emerged during these reviews relate to (i) timely payment of wages, (ii) timely measurement, (iii) regular monitoring and supervision and (iv) record maintenance and grievance redressal.

(c) and (d) NREGA is demand driven. The number of days for which employment is provided will depend on the number of days for which employments is demanded by a household. Hence, no targets can be fixed under NREGA. In the first phase, NREGA was extended to 200 districts with effect from 2.2.2006. During the year 2006-07, a total of 2.12 crore households had demanded employment out of which 2.10 crore were provided employment in these districts.

Rural development schemes in Haryana

†397. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Grameen Rozgar Yojana, Indira Awaas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana being implemented in Haryana for its uplifitment for the last two years;

(b) the success rate of each of the scheme in State of Haryana; and

(c) the amount allocated and spent under the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) The funds allocated, released and utilized under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Pradhan mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last two years i.e. 2005-06 and 2006-07 in Haryana are given in Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.